

The Kardex impact report

The impact of Kardex automation

We surveyed 100+ North American warehouse leaders across several industry segments to find out how their Kardex Remstar automation is performing on the floor – not just in theory, but in practice. From space and speed to labor and accuracy, the results reveal how our customers are building more resilient, efficient, and scalable operations with automation at the core.

Warehouse leaders know: space is tight, labor is unpredictable, and customer expectations are rising fast. We wanted to understand what's working, what's changing, and what Kardex Remstar automation is really delivering in the field. That's why we went straight to the source – our customers.

We asked them about performance, ROI, labor, and their future plans. What we heard was clear: automation is driving real, measurable outcomes across industries and facility sizes. Whether they're running lean teams or high-SKU operations, Kardex Remstar customers are seeing faster picking, smarter storage, and more control – at scale.







Real results from real operations

From the warehouse floor to the balance sheet, the impact of Kardex Remstar automation is undeniable. The results speak for themselves: space is being reclaimed, accuracy is rising, and productivity is up – with minimal disruption and fast ROI.

Here are just some of the most impactful results from our customer survey.

Kardex Remstar solutions aren't just solving today's problems – they're powering tomorrow's success.



78% saw better space utilization



59% saw ROI within 6 months



56% picked faster with the same team

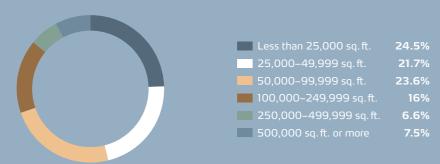


96% say automation plays a role in their growth strategy

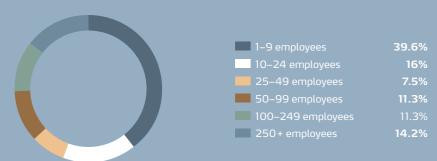
Who we heard from

We heard from 100+ North American Kardex Remstar customers across several industries, facility sizes, and SKU complexities. Here is how they stack up.

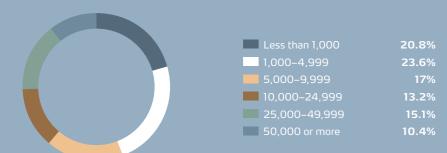
What is the size of your warehouse or facility?



How many full-time employees work in your warehouse operations?



How many SKUs do you manage in your warehouse?

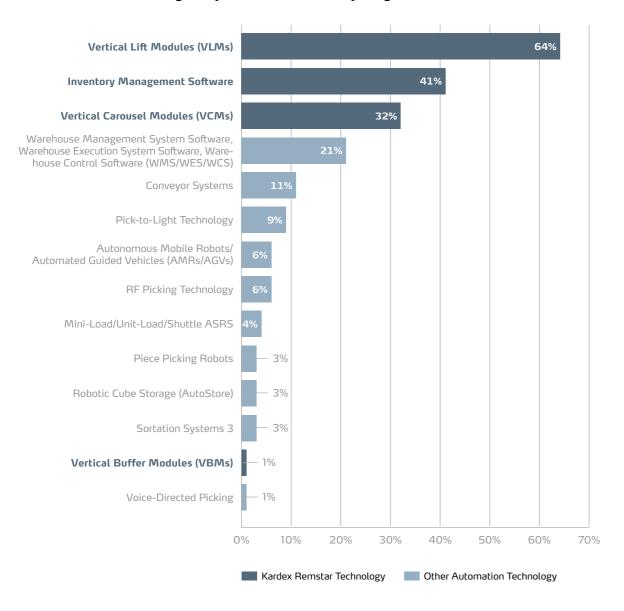


Source: May 2025 Kardex Remstar North American Customer Survey



Inside the automation tech stack

Which automation technologies is your warehouse currently using?



Source: May 2025 Kardex Remstar North American Customer Survey

Our survey shows that while core technologies like Vertical Lift Modules (64%) and Inventory Management Software (41%) are widely adopted, many operations are just beginning to tap into the full potential of warehouse automation.

High-ROI technologies – like Vertical Lift Modules (VLMs) and Vertical Carousel Modules (VCMs) – are leading the way due to their quick impact on space, speed, and labor efficiency. But adoption of advanced tools like robotic systems, buffer modules, and sortation tech remains relatively low – highlighting a clear opportunity for future investment, integration, and competitive advantage.



Learn more about the benefits of ASRS and the differences between a VLM and a VCM in this Buyer's Guide: Vertical Storage Solutions.

For many respondents, automation is no longer about early experimentation. It's about scaling what works and building a smart tech stack that balances physical automation with digital orchestration. The path forward? Expand on what's delivering results – and prepare for what's next.

96% of respondents said that automation plays a key role in their long-term growth strategy.

Kardex benefits in action

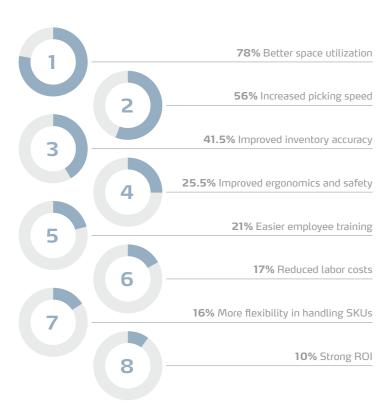
What does "impact" really look like on the warehouse floor?

For Kardex Remstar customers, it starts with space – and extends to speed, accuracy, team performance, and bottom-line ROI.

When we asked customers what benefits they've seen since installing Kardex Remstar automation, their answers painted a clear picture: these aren't incremental wins – they're foundational improvements. Kardex Remstar customers are reclaiming floor space, training new hires in half the time, and hitting productivity goals without expanding headcount.

In short? Kardex Remstar helps operations of all sizes do more with less.

What benefits have you seen since installing Kardex Remstar automation?



Source: May 2025 Kardex Remstar North American Customer Survey

What warehouse leaders value most

Warehouse automation doesn't solve problems in silos. That's why we asked our customers to rank their top three benefits in order. Here's what we heard.



78% selected improved floor space as one of their top three benefits

In facilities where every square foot counts, this isn't just a win – it's a transformation. By replacing static shelving with Vertical Lift Modules (VLMs) or Vertical Carousel Modules (VCMs), customers reclaim valuable floor space and convert wasted vertical air into high-density, high-access storage. One respondent told us:

"We turned our inventory area into manufacturing space."



56% chose increased picking speed and 41.5% chose fewer picking errors

Kardex Remstar systems bring goods directly to the operator – eliminating long walk times, inefficient search routines, and the fatigue that comes from aisle-based fulfillment. With guided workflows and ergonomic access points, teams pick faster and more accurately. As one user put it:

"Less time spent finding parts. More time getting work done."



41% say improved inventory control ranked in their top three

What you can't see in your inventory process often costs you the most. Kardex Remstar solutions integrate with inventory management software and WMS platforms like Kardex Power Pick System to deliver tray-level accuracy, enforce slotting rules, and enable real-time visibility. No more digging, guessing, or double-checking – just clean, auditable control.

"Everything is trackable and secure."

Kardex Remstar helps warehouses run leaner, faster, and smarter – all within the space they already have.

Do more with the team you already have

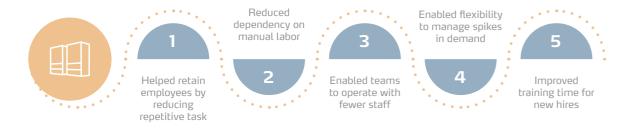
Warehouse automation isn't just about replacing labor – it's about making existing teams more efficient and effective. From lean operations running with fewer than 10 employees to large teams scaling without additional headcount, our customers are seeing more productivity with less pressure.

56% of Kardex Remstar customers are operating with 24 or fewer employees It's clear that warehouse teams don't need to be big – they need to be equipped. Kardex Remstar solutions let small, focused teams handle complex storage and fulfillment workflows without hiring additional staff.

With automation managing the heavy lifting – literally and figuratively – your team can focus on higher-value tasks, adapt faster, and hit daily goals with less effort and fewer errors.

Here's how Kardex Remstar customers say automation has helped them respond to labor shortages:

How has automation helped warehouse leaders respond to labor shortages?



Source: May 2025 Kardex Remstar North American Customer Survey

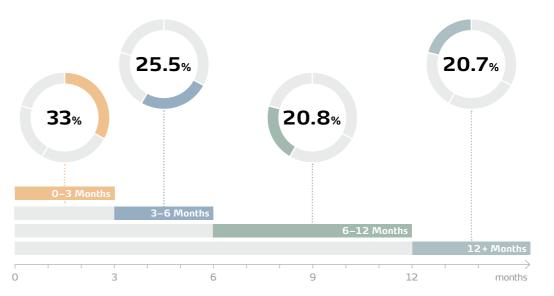
ROI in 12 months or less

Kardex Remstar customers aren't waiting years to see value – they're seeing results in months. With 59% reporting measurable ROI within six months, and 1 in 3 seeing impact in just three, our automation systems outperform industry norms.

And because Kardex Shuttle Vertical Lift Modules (VLMs) are proudly American-made, customers gain more control from day one.

Typical warehouse automation can take 18–24 months to deliver ROI. Kardex Remstar systems move the needle faster. Our customers report measurable benefits in a fraction of the time – often within the first quarter.

How long did it take to see measurable results from your Kardex Remstar investment?



Source: May 2025 Kardex Remstar North American Customer Survey

What sets us apart?

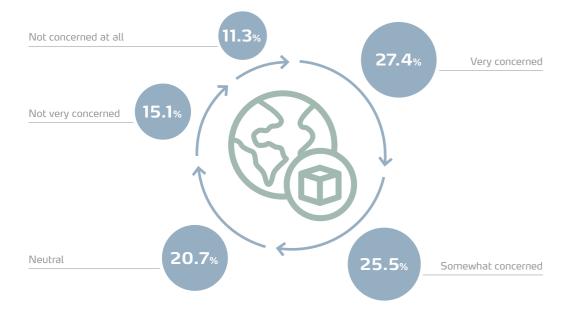
Rapid integration, top-notch service, minimal downtime, and solutions that scale with your operation. From improved space utilization to higher throughput and lower labor costs, Kardex Remstar automation delivers real business impact without the long wait.

You get reliable support, shorter lead times, and greater confidence in every installation

A stronger supply chain starts here

When trade policy shifts or global supply chains are disrupted, warehouse leaders need more than flexibility – they need control. Nearly half of North American Kardex Remstar customers say they're not concerned about trade uncertainty. And it's no coincidence. They've already invested in automation that strengthens resilience from the inside out.

How concerned are warehouse leaders about global trade and tariffs?



Source: May 2025 Kardex Remstar North American Customer Survey

While 53% of warehouse leaders expressed concern over global trade and tariffs, almost half reported feeling neutral or unconcerned – a sign that automation is doing its job.

Kardex Remstar customers are better equipped to respond to supply chain volatility on external variables.

With warehouse automation, customers gain real-time visibility, faster access to buffer stock, and the flexibility to adapt storage strategies without major disruptions. And because **Kardex Remstar VLMs are proudly American-made in our South Carolina factory,** they're not subject to the same sourcing risks or tariff delays faced by imported systems.

In a volatile world, operational control is the new supply chain strategy – and Kardex Remstar customers are ahead of the curve.



Learn more about our US Factory and how our systems our Proudly American Made.



Make the case for Kardex automation

Convince your manager to invest in Kardex

You see the potential – now it's time to get leadership on board. Whether you're pitching to Ops, Finance, or the C-suite, we've compiled the key talking points to make a compelling case for Kardex Remstar automation. Use these proof points to move the conversation forward – and show how Kardex Remstar can deliver real impact for your operation.



"This isn't just automation – this is optimization." Kardex Remstar helps us reclaim space, reduce walking, and increase accuracy – all with our existing team



"We'll see ROI fast – most customers do in under 6 months."

Over half of Kardex Remstar customers reported measurable results in 6 months or less. One in three saw impact in just 3.



"It lets us grow without growing headcount."

More than half of customers improved throughput without hiring.
56% operate with 24 people or fewer.



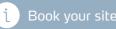
"It solves multiple problems at once."

Space constraints, inventory control, picking speed, labor pressures – we can tackle all of them with one solution.



Need extra backup?

We'll send a warehouse automation expert to your facility – no pressure, no pushy sales pitch – to evaluate your space, workflow, and needs. It's a completely free, no-commitment site visit designed to help you choose the right technology, confidently. Ready to take the next step with automation?



What Kardex customers are saying

We didn't just ask for stats – we asked our customers to tell us, in their own words, how Kardex Remstar has impacted their warehouse. From space and efficiency to control and confidence, here's how they describe the difference Kardex Remstar automation makes every day on the warehouse floor.

"They saved so much space and made finding things unbelievably easy."

"Working smarter and not harder – Kardex has increased our overall productivity."

"Inventory accuracy has improved dramatically, and all inventory is in one place."

"We've been able to utilize the space to turn our inventory area into manufacturing areas."

"It utilizes the vertical space that is normally dead space. Very efficient."

"It's easy to use and serves as great equipment for staging and inventory control."

Solving what slows you down

Every warehouse faces pressure – space is tight, labor is hard to find, order volumes are rising, and accuracy isn't optional. That's where warehouse automation comes in. It doesn't just speed things up. It creates structure where there's chaos, visibility where there's guesswork, and scalability where manual processes fall short.

For operations leaders, the goal isn't just to keep up - it's to stay ahead.

Kardex Remstar automation helps make that possible by simplifying complexity, supporting lean teams, and giving you the tools to move faster, pick smarter, and store more in less space.

If you're navigating real-world challenges, automation isn't a luxury – it's your edge.

kardex remstar

"The Kardex Impact report isn't just a collection of stats – it's a reflection of how Kardex Remstar users are transforming their operations with automation. From small teams to global enterprises, our customers are proving that smarter systems lead to faster growth, greater resilience, and better results. We're proud to be part of their journey."

Mark Dunaway, President, Americas

The Kardex Remstar lineup

From space-saving vertical storage to high-speed picking and smart inventory control, Kardex Remstar offers four core solutions designed to streamline warehouse operations of all shapes and sizes. Each system solves a specific challenge – but together, they create a powerful foundation for scalable, future-ready automation.

Horizontal Carousel Module (HCM)

Consisting of bins mounted on an oval track that rotate horizontally to deliver stored items to an operator. These automated storage and retrieval systems save up to 60% of floor space when compared to standard shelving and rack.

Learn more about HCMs.





Vertical Carousel Module (VCM)

Comprised of a series of shelves that rotate around a track – similar to a Ferris wheel – these automated storage and retrieval systems quickly deliver stored items to an ergonomically positioned work counter at the operator's command. When compared to static shelving and rack, they save up to 75% of floor space.

Learn more about VCMs.



Vertical Lift Module (VLM)

An enclosed automated storage and retrieval system that incorporates two columns of trays with a central inserter/ extractor that automatically locates and retrieves stored trays from both columns, then presents them to the operator at a waist-high pick window. These systems save up to 85% of floor space compared to static shelving and rack.

Learn more about VLMs.

Vertical Buffer Module (VBM)

In the middle of a multi-segment shelving system is an aisle, where a moveable mast with a telescopic gripper operates. The control unit sets the gripper in motion picking a bin and transporting it to a picking station.

Learn more about VBMs.





See what Kardex can do for you

The results are clear: Kardex Remstar customers are reclaiming space, increasing accuracy, scaling faster, and doing more with smaller teams. Whether you're managing 1,000 SKUs or 50,000, automation isn't just a future goal; it's a competitive advantage that starts now.

Want to see how automation could work in your facility? We offer a **free**, **no-commitment site visit** with a Kardex Remstar warehouse expert. There's no pushy sales pitch – just hands-on insight.

We'll walk your space, evaluate your current setup, and provide clear, strategic recommendations tailored to your operation.

No pressure. No obligation. Just clarity on your next best move.

What are you waiting for? Let's see what Kardex Remstar can do for you.



Book your site visit now