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**Kiva Systems Announces Enhanced High-Density Storage Option**

*New “double deep” option already in use at two Kiva customer sites*

Chicago, Ill. – ProMat 2011 – March 21, 2011 – [Kiva Systems](#), a developer of game-changing mobile-robotic solutions that automate [order fulfillment](#) and distribution operations, today announced general availability of its new Enhanced High-density Storage option as a software upgrade for standard Kiva solution packages. The new capabilities offer [multi-channel retailers](#) and other customers increased storage capacity on a single level, equivalent to a standard five-tier pallet rack area. This equates to a 20 percent storage density improvement compared to standard Kiva floor storage configurations.

The new Enhanced High-density Storage option is designed for customers that have a large number of slow moving SKUs and limited floor space. The new software module increases total SKUs per square foot by replacing some travel aisles with storage, creating storage areas of tightly packed [mobile inventory shelves](#). When inventory stored on an interior shelf (i.e., shelf in high-density zone, without immediate access to a travel aisle) is required for order processing, the new storage software module sends teams of [robotic drive units](#) to “dig out” the required mobile shelf. The first drive unit automatically moves the outer shelves to nearby open locations, while the second drive unit fetches the interior mobile shelf.

“Kiva’s dynamic shelving approach already stores more cubic feet of merchandise per square foot of floor than any other automated material handling system. With the introduction of our Enhanced High-density Storage software option, Kiva helps customers drive even more air out of their warehouses,” said Mick Mountz, founder and CEO of Kiva Systems. “This new development is particularly compelling for multi-channel merchants and eCommerce retailers who often offer a broad assortment of goods that require them to stock a ‘long tail’ of many slow moving items.”

The new Enhanced High-density Storage option builds on Kiva’s established approach to achieving high storage density. The foundation for Kiva’s extraordinary storage density is

the fact that Kiva's unique shelving system is movable. These mobile shelving "pods" each have four pick faces—double the number offered by conventional shelving. Unlike flow rack or static shelves, Kiva's robotic drive units store mobile shelving pods back-to-back, enabling putaway aisles to be eliminated in favor of additional storage capacity. Moreover, since Kiva dynamically assigns all bins in its shelving pod population, any new product can go into any empty bin. This approach radically reduces the number of empty bins in a Kiva system at any given time. In addition to convenient Kiva-directed replenishment, Kiva offers user-directed putaway mode in which human operators choose the best bin to maximize storage utilization.

The new storage option ensures Kiva customers can [pick, pack and ship](#) all of their SKU profiles from within a single solution; it may be applied to any segment of an existing or new Kiva floor. For example, it can be used in conjunction with Kiva solutions that support low cubic volume, slower-moving products (such as jewelry) which are often stored in mobile drawer shelves. It is also effective for high cubic volume, faster moving case goods stored on mobile pallet bases, as well as for mobile garment-on-hanger shelves. Finally, Kiva's standard mobile mult-tier shelves are used to store a wide variety of goods, from cut-case cosmetic and apparel items to medical devices.

### **About Kiva Systems**

Kiva Systems, Inc. uses game-changing automation technology for distribution centers that helps companies simplify operations and reduce costs, while increasing strategic flexibility. Using hundreds of autonomous mobile robots and sophisticated control software, the Kiva Mobile Fulfillment System enables extremely fast cycle times with reduced labor requirements, from receiving to picking to shipping. The result is a building that is quick and low-cost to set up, inexpensive to operate, and easy to change. For more information on Kiva Systems and its solutions, please visit [www.kivasystems.com](http://www.kivasystems.com).