



PLANETPRESS CAPTURE USE CASE

Industry: Manufacturing
Business Form: Bills of lading

Current situation

A manufacturer, delivering goods to its clients, has multiple warehouses located across North America. When an order is received from a retail location, headquarters transfers it to the nearest warehouse where the information is printed on a pre-printed three-part bill of lading.

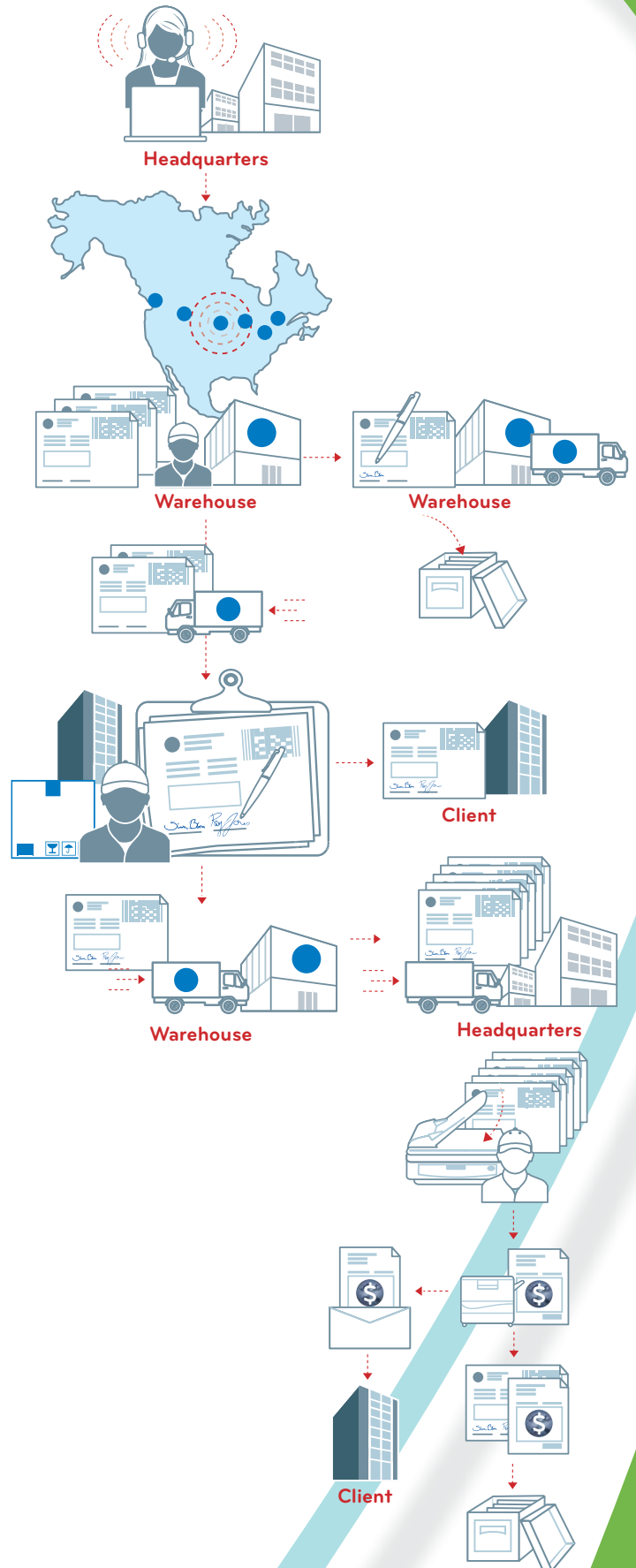
The shipment is loaded on a delivery truck and before it can leave, the driver signs a copy of the bill of lading which is then manually filed at the warehouse. He takes the other two copies with him.

At destination, the truck is unloaded; the customer signs to confirm receipt and keeps a copy of the bill of lading for his records. The driver brings back the other copy to the warehouse. At the end of each day, a clerk packs all the bills of lading in a box and sends them to headquarters.

When the bills of lading are received at headquarters, they are manually scanned and matched with the appropriate invoice. The invoice is then printed and mailed to the client.

Challenges:

- The bills of lading must be sent to headquarters daily adding to the operational costs.
- They must be scanned and manually archived before an invoice can be produced, a time consuming process that also creates delays.
- Bills of lading are regularly misplaced or damaged requiring manual data recovery and data entry.
- The use of pre-printed bills of lading forms is expensive and generates a lot of waste.



Solution: PlanetPress Suite

When an order is entered in the system, the appropriate warehouse is immediately notified. The bill of lading is automatically generated and saved in an electronic document management system (EDM). Two copies are also printed on a standard laser printer using regular paper, one with Anoto patterns in the signature zones.

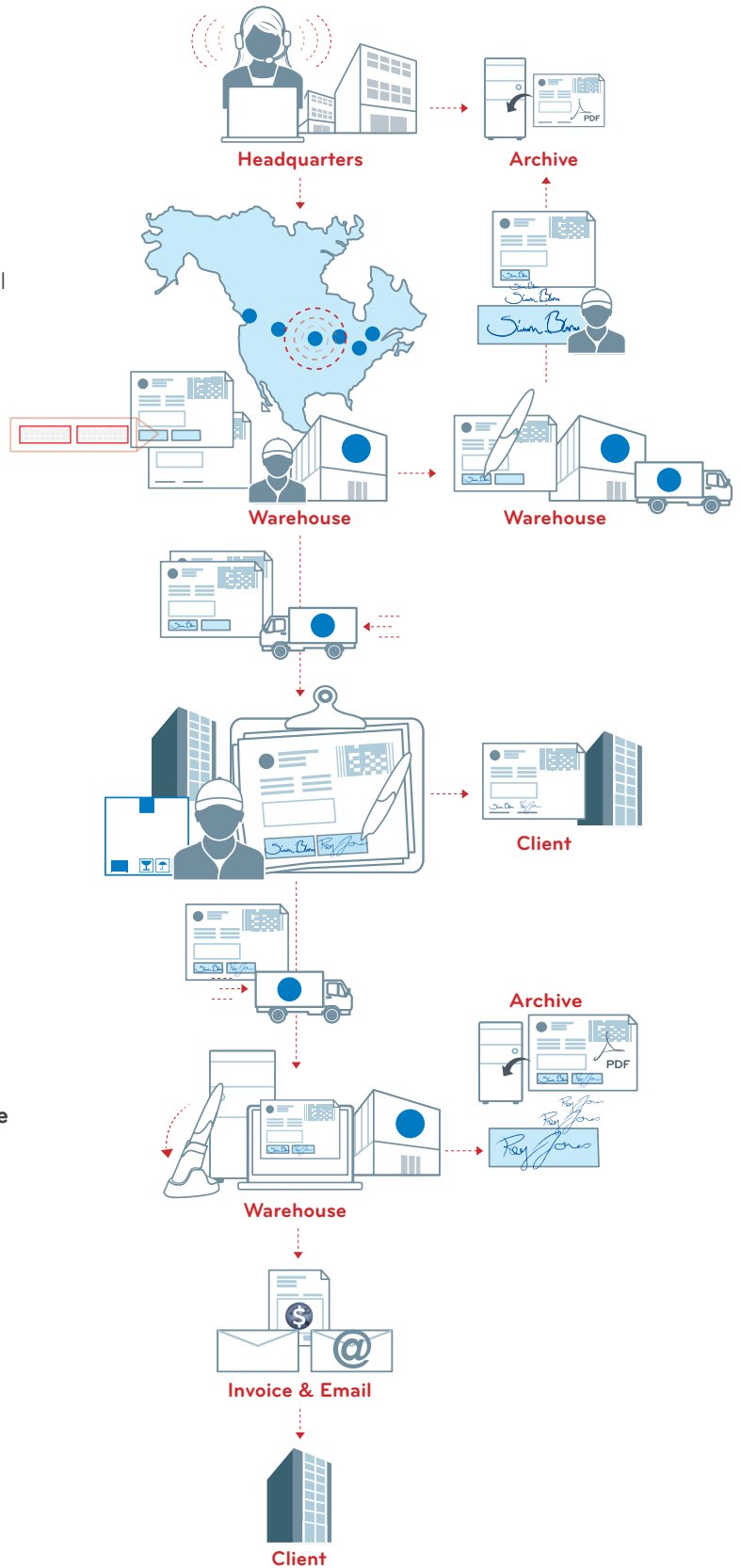
When the delivery truck is loaded, the driver signs the bill of lading using an Anoto digital pen and docks the pen back in its cradle. The captured signature is matched to the appropriate digital version of the bill of lading for archiving and future reference.

At destination, the truck is unloaded and the customer signs the bill of lading with the Anoto digital pen. The customer keeps the copy with no signature as proof of delivery. As soon as the pen is docked back at the warehouse, the client's signature is added to the digital version, eliminating the need for scanning.

When the pen is docked, it also triggers a series of automated actions: headquarters receive notification that delivery is complete; the invoice is automatically produced and sent to the customer by post or email.

Benefits:

- **Digital copies of the bills of lading are electronically sent to headquarters.**
- **Manual scanning and handling of documents is eliminated and replaced with automated processes, eliminating delays and errors.**
- **Headquarters can process invoices faster improving cash flow.**
- **The use of expensive pre-printed forms is replaced with on-demand laser printing.**
- **Documents are automatically archived for future reference and immediate accessibility.**



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