

The ABCs of Inventory AI

Transform inventory from inaccurate, manual guesswork into a reliable, strategic revenue driver.



NomadGo Inventory AI recognizes, counts, and visualizes what is on your shelves in real time using the smartphones and tablets you already have. Our on-device AI delivers accurate, fast, and frequent inventory data that improves ordering, forecasting, loss prevention, and planogram execution.

There is a lot to learn about how Inventory AI works and what it can do, so we are starting with the basics.

Let's get started with The ABCs of Inventory AI.

A

Automated Ordering



On-device Inventory AI enables automated ordering by delivering frequent pulses of real-time inventory data directly from shelves, makelines, walk-ins, and pallets. With more frequent and accurate counts, replenishment can trigger automatically to reduce stockouts and overstock simultaneously.

B

Better Customer Experience



When popular items are in stock and ready, customer satisfaction soars. [Starbucks' rollout of Inventory AI](#) is enabling more consistent availability of high-demand items, improving efficiency for employees and enhancing the overall customer experience.

C Count Everything (in 3D)

Beyond barcode scans and 2D camera systems, *Spatial Vision* sees shelves in 3D, recognizes what is present, counts what is missing, and overlays results in real time using augmented reality. Users can confirm or modify live inventory data while moving through physical space. This user-in-the-loop model improves accuracy, builds trust, and encourages adoption while making inventory counting feel intuitive and engaging.

D Digital Twin of the Shelf

A digital model of your physical inventory, including count, capacity, utilization, and location velocity, turns stores, kitchens, and stockrooms into data that can be monitored, analyzed, and acted on. This visibility supports continuous improvement through stronger planograms, targeted audits, and faster issue resolution.

E Edge AI Speed and Resilience

NomadGo Inventory AI runs directly on smartphones and tablets, providing fast response times, low bandwidth use, and full offline capability. It requires no fixed hardware or complex cloud setup, making it ideal for stock rooms, coolers, and warehouses with unreliable Wi-Fi. *Research on edge AI* highlights its advantages in real-time performance, bandwidth efficiency, and data security.

F Frequent Counts, Smarter Forecasts

Forecasting depends on accurate, up-to-date information. When inventory is counted infrequently, small errors add up and distort demand signals. Inventory AI makes frequent counting simple by using the devices teams already have, giving a clear view of what is selling, what is sitting, and what needs replenishment. *According to McKinsey*, companies using AI-driven forecasting have reduced lost sales by up to 65 percent.

With more frequent, accurate data, forecasting becomes proactive instead of reactive.

G Greener Operations

Reducing food waste is one of the fastest ways to cut climate impact. According to [ReFED](#), surplus food in the United States accounts for up to six percent of national greenhouse gas emissions, and global food waste contributes up to ten percent. Frequent, accurate inventory counts help businesses use what they have before ordering more, reducing overproduction and spoilage. Inventory AI turns waste reduction into a daily habit that saves money and protects the planet.

H Hands-On Intelligence

Accuracy is highest when people remain part of the process. User-in-the-loop Inventory AI allows staff to see what the system detects, confirm counts, and correct errors in real time. This continuous feedback builds trust, improves learning, and keeps automation accountable. When people and technology work together, precision becomes the norm.

I Inventory Distortion (The \$1.7 Trillion Problem)

Retailers lose more than \$1.7 trillion each year to inaccurate inventory caused by overstocking and stockouts. Inventory AI closes this gap by providing real-time visibility into what is actually on the shelf instead of what systems assume is there. With continuous, accurate counts, teams can order precisely, reduce waste, and keep products available when customers need them. Better data leads to better decisions and fewer costly surprises.

J Job Satisfaction

Simplifying inventory work gives employees more time to focus on customers. Inventory AI turns manual counting into a fast, engaging task that feels rewarding instead of repetitive. When teams enjoy the tools they use, accuracy improves, shelves stay stocked, and customers get a smoother, more reliable experience.

K

Key Integrations and Ecosystem



Inventory AI connects with the systems operators already use, including back-of-house, ERPs, and ordering platforms. Integrating these tools allows inventory data to flow seamlessly into daily workflows, turning every count into insight that supports smarter planning, purchasing, and analysis. Combining Inventory AI with software like PAR, Crunchtime, Clearview, and Restaurant365 helps teams work from a single, accurate source of truth across their entire operation.

L

Loss Prevention and Shrink



Inventory AI improves visibility across every shelf and storage area, helping teams detect issues such as misplaced items, phantom inventory, or theft before they grow into larger problems. Accurate, frequent counts supported by real-time alerts make it easier to spot anomalies, maintain planogram compliance, and prevent loss.

M

Multi-Location Scale



Large operations such as hospital systems, campus dining programs, and restaurant chains depend on consistent performance across every site. Using everyday devices, Inventory AI scales quickly across hundreds or even thousands of locations without complex installation or fixed hardware. Food management teams can view accurate, real-time data across their entire network, improving visibility, reducing waste, and increasing efficiency at every level.

N

No Fixed Hardware



Getting started does not require special equipment or complicated setup. Teams can begin scanning inventory right away using the smartphones and tablets they already have. Without costly installations or disruption, pilots move faster, results appear sooner, and operations in kitchens, stockrooms, and distribution centers continue without interruption.

O On-Shelf Availability (OSA)

Keeping shelves stocked is one of the simplest ways to build trust with customers. With the help of Inventory AI, teams can see exactly what is available, identify gaps before they become stockouts, and restock in time to meet demand. Retailers such as Target, Walmart, and Home Depot are already using AI to predict shortages and reposition products, improving both availability and accuracy across their stores. When customers find what they came for, they return with confidence.

P Planogram Compliance

Planogram compliance is essential for maximizing product visibility and sales performance. Inventory AI captures real-time shelf data, compares it to planogram standards, and identifies missing or misplaced products. This level of precision helps retailers and brands maintain consistent execution across every location. According to NielsenIQ, well-executed planograms can increase category sales by up to 35 percent.

Q QSR Cadence

Quick-service operations depend on speed and precision across every makeline, cooler, and prep station. With Inventory AI, staff can count ingredients and supplies in real time, reducing back-room tasks and keeping high-demand items available during peak hours. Starbucks' use of Inventory AI has shown how real-time visibility supports faster service, higher accuracy, and consistent product availability at scale.

R Responsive Supply Chains

Supply chains perform best when they can react quickly to change. Inventory AI provides the data needed to adjust orders, staffing, and production based on what is happening on the shelf or in storage. Organizations using real-time insights can rebalance faster, reduce shortages, and maintain stability even during market disruptions. Responsiveness has become a competitive advantage built on accurate, frequent inventory data.



Shelf Intelligence



Every shelf holds valuable insight. Inventory AI captures real-time data on product placement, movement, and availability, helping teams identify patterns and act quickly. This visibility supports consistent execution, stronger merchandising, and faster responses to changing demand. When shelves are understood in real time, inventory becomes a true competitive advantage.



Time to Value



Fast implementation delivers fast results. Inventory AI runs on the smartphones and tablets teams already use, allowing organizations to launch in weeks instead of months. This quick deployment leads to immediate labor savings, faster insights, and more frequent counts that reduce unexplained variance. By removing complexity from setup, operations gain measurable value almost as soon as they start.



Utilization and Capacity Awareness



Knowing how much space is being used is just as important as knowing what is in stock. Inventory AI powered by Spatial Vision shows both product quantities and available capacity on every shelf, rack, and pallet. This visibility helps teams restock efficiently, organize storage areas, and make better use of limited space. With a clear view of inventory and capacity, operations stay balanced and productive.



Variance



Variance occurs when reported inventory does not match what is actually on hand. These discrepancies create financial uncertainty, disrupt ordering, and reduce trust in operational data. Inventory AI reduces variance by providing frequent, verified counts that align digital records with physical reality. With fewer gaps between expectation and truth, teams can track performance accurately and protect profitability.



Waste Less



Reducing waste begins with better visibility into what is on hand. Inventory AI helps teams prepare the right quantities, track usage, and avoid overordering. When combined with faster inventory cycles, these insights help operators lower costs, reduce waste, and improve sustainability without adding complexity.



eXplainability and Trust



Trust grows when people understand how technology works. Inventory AI provides clear, on-device overlays that show what the system is identifying and counting. This transparency builds user confidence, accelerates adoption, and aligns with widely recognized explainable AI principles. When teams can see and verify results, they are more likely to rely on the system and use it effectively.



Your Next Move



Inventory management is evolving from reacting to anticipating. With tools like Inventory AI, teams can see what is happening in real time and predict what will happen next. Accurate, frequent data across all locations helps identify trends, anticipate demand, and plan with confidence. Your next move is using these insights to stay ahead instead of catching up



Zero Fixed Hardware



On-device Inventory AI removes the need for costly cameras or complex hardware setups. Running directly on smartphones and tablets, it allows teams to start counting right away with no new infrastructure required. This flexibility gives operators accurate, real-time visibility in any environment and makes frequent, reliable inventory tracking accessible to every operation.

Bring your inventory into focus.

Request a demo to see how NomadGo Inventory AI delivers accurate, real-time counts with just the wave of a smartphone or tablet.

Inventory is literally cash sitting on your shelves. Count everything.

[Get a Demo of NomadGo Inventory AI](#)