

WDMobile gets all their ducks in a row

Vendome Laboratories have set up, in collaboration with the Page Up Company, a foolproof tracking system for order processing.



The company

Created in 1981, VENDOME Laboratories is an independent, family-own company that offers products for personal hygiene and skin care.

Leader in the body wash product



market (shower gels, bath gels, soap bars and liquid soaps), the company offers under its name-sake brand some dermatological-cosmetic solutions targeted by skin types to children and adults.

Project management

Jean Philippe Lucien

the project manager for VENDOME Laboratories.

The PAGE UP Company has also collaborated on this project.

Splish-splash with WINDEV Mobile

VENDOME

Laboratories have a distribution center located in the Dijon area. At this location, a few years ago, the warehouse employees manually prepared orders (on index cards) to control the flow of bulk products (in contrast to a palette loaded with



all the same product). Automating this step had become a necessity in order to audit the batches of products delivered to customers. In 2001 a first mobile

solution was set up. Unfortunately, this first solution, which was not using WINDEV Mobile, was hard to modify and the information system team at VENDOME Laboratories then opted for a more long-lasting environment, WINDEV Mobile. Jean Philippe Lucien explains this choice: "As soon as WINDEV Mobile was released, I didn't hesitate a second before adopting it. We were already familiar with WINDEV and enjoying its unmatched ease of programming, we were immediately operational. WINDEV Mobile is a WINDEV clone, adapted 100% to the mobile world. It's a real treat, results are instantaneous".

WINDEV Mobile and GOTIVE: a logistical dream

The collaboration with Page Up led to the choice of the Gotive Mobile device under Windows CE. A dozen terminals are used in the warehouse by the order processors and forklift operators.

Every morning the person processing orders docks the Gotive device on his station to load the data to process: the orders to ship that day as well as the updated inventory.

The orders to prepare contain the information needed to trace the order further down the line.

"The local data is stored in the Hyper File Mobile database. Therefore accesses are optimized", emphasizes Jean-Philippe Lucien. After the synchronization, the person processing the order goes to the warehouse with an order form loaded in his terminal to prepare the shipment.

"Scanning is intuitive in WINDEV Mobile. The value of the scanned bar code is automatically retrieved into a string. It's so easy", says Jean-Philippe Lucien.

For bulk orders, the order preparation is done by comparing layers and palettes in order to offer the consumer all the guarantees and precautions required by distributors and by the law.





●●● WiFi and Just in Time

«Thanks to WINDEV Mobile and to the Gotive terminal, we are able to dynamically edit the labels of the palette's layer using WiFi with Just in Time technology. The fact that we print using WiFi gives us a lot of flexibility», Jean Philippe Lucien goes on to explain.

He adds, «We're relying on the latest GS1France standards. In our case, we're using the EAN 128 standard. Printing labels with bar codes through WINDEV Mobile is extremely simple», explains Jean Philippe Lucien, the project manager.

Once the palette is ready to be shipped, the person processing the order synchronizes the Gotive with the ERP software from ADONIX via WiFi. In fact, the new packing slip is on the back office system. During this time, another team validates the packing slips and prints the corresponding reports.

Thanks to tracking, it's all transparent now

This process enables all the batches delivered to the customers to be tracked by number. If an anomaly occurs, the relevant

store can be contacted. The automation of the warehouse has increased our tracking abilities but has also drastically reduced the number of errors.

Link to Adonix

Another useful, integrated feature is the automatic stock management on the mobile terminals. This consists in sending a note when an item gets low in stock and automatically creating a reorder request and a new order through the ADONIX ERP system.

«Communication with ADONIX is based on the OLE DB protocol via a back office application developed using WINDEV», notes Jean-Philippe Lucien.

Automatic update deployment

Since the first version was deployed some modifications have been made: tracking of product displays in large retail stores, connectivity with ADONIX, etc.

«Thanks to WINDEV Mobile, updating the terminals is automatic. If an update is available, it is installed as soon as the terminal rests on its base», explains the project manager who confesses his enjoyment of developing with WINDEV

Mobile: «As a former certified developer for another language, switching to WINDEV and WINDEV Mobile brings me unsurpassed comfort and productivity. Furthermore, I can only laud the competence of PC SOFT's technical support and staff. I've always received pertinent responses to my questions. Even better, this service is free!».

