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BRIAN BENNETT | VICE PRESIDENT

## Menu Foods

*Menu Foods achieves 24/7 operations and real-time traceability with RFgen’s data collection solution.*

### At a glance...

#### Industry

Pet Food Manufacturing

#### Application

Tracking and Inventory Control

#### Environment

Oracle JD Edwards EnterpriseOne v8.10

### The Challenge

In the food industry, the threat of recall is constant. Food companies need to be able to track all the way down to the individual unit of product so they can quickly remove it from shelves, and then do a full backward trace to find out the origin of the problem.

In 2008, Menu Foods sought to improve its ability to track and trace products in the supply chain. Menu Foods is a leading North American private-label manufacturer of pet food products sold by supermarket retailers, mass merchandisers, pet specialty retailers, and other outlets. With yearly revenues of \$260 million, it provides pet food manufacturing to 17 of the top 20 North American retailers as well as leading pet specialty retailers in North America.

Management wanted to be able to find out where and when every product was manufactured, and the origin of the ingredients in the product. Their legacy custom data collection system did not have the lot traceability and shipment tracking they required. They needed a proven, successful data collection solution that would provide real-time integration with everything from manufacturing to license plating.

### The Solution

After careful vendor research, Menu Foods chose RFgen’s Integration Suite for Oracle’s JD Edwards Applications for its proven success in giving customers total lot traceability, efficiency, and real-time integration with their JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Release 8.10 solution from Oracle.

RFgen helped Menu Foods implement its data collection solution over eight weeks in four facilities in Canada and the United States.

### The Result

RFgen’s Integration Suite for Oracle’s JD Edwards Applications provided a number of benefits for Menu Foods in its manufacturing and distribution operations. Most importantly, it increased traceability and shipment tracking efficiencies, reducing the risks associated with recalls. RFgen implemented its standard License Plating Suite between warehouses, which assigns units with serial numbers that uniquely identify them. “We now have improved ability to track inventory, including lot traceability,” says Bryan Bennett, vice president of IT at Simmons Pet Food, which acquired Menu Foods. “This has increased the confidence in the accuracy of the inventory.”

RFgen’s high-availability solution also enabled 24/7 operations at Menu Foods, regardless of the availability of the JD Edwards EnterpriseOne host system. It also provided real-time integration for supply chain operations. “Being a more modern technology, RFgen has enabled Menu Foods with the tools they need to expand the use of data collection in their operations,” says Bennett.

RFgen’s ease-of-use has reduced end user training time and resulted in an improved overall user experience. “The users like the ease-of-use,” says Bennett. “New employees are able to learn the system quickly.” In fact, the solution was so successful in

improving manufacturing and distribution operations that Simmons Pet Food expanded implementation of the RFgen software in another facility due to its success at Menu Foods.

RFgen software is a complete, automated data collection solution that reduces costs in the supply chain by integrating seamlessly and easily with core business processes. RFgen's flexible architecture and proven ability to reduce complexity help increase control and streamline operations for customers to sharpen their competitive edge. More than 2,000 individual customers worldwide choose RFgen solutions for their data collection needs. "A lot of our customers' manufacturing operations need to run 24/7 for continuous production," says Robert Brice, president of RFgen Software. "If the connection to the host is lost or the server is down for backup, RFgen extends JD Edwards solutions so companies can continue to operate the manufacturing facility autonomous from the central server with real-time visibility."

RFgen's applications are easy to customize and adapt to each organization's specific supply chain requirements, with one of the shortest implementation times in the industry. "We deliver the power of flexibility to the customer", says Brice.



#### About RFgen Software

RFgen Software helps organizations reduce supply chain implementation costs and increase accuracy and efficiency with the industry's most reliable and flexible mobile data collection software and supply chain automation solutions.

Enabling you to increase productivity by providing your mobile workforce with real-time and on-demand access to enterprise data, RFgen's mobile data collection solutions easily connect Windows, Android and Apple iOS mobile devices like barcode scanners, tablets, handheld computers, voice recognition devices and more to your back office ERP systems and databases, including Oracle's JD Edwards, Oracle E-Business Suite, SAP, SAP Business One, Deltek Costpoint and more.

In business since 1983, RFgen is known in the manufacturing and distribution industries for its solid, high-quality products and high customer satisfaction ratings among its more than 2,800 customers. With a global reach and local touch, RFgen and its network of more than 140 certified solution partners can support your organization no matter where your operations are located around the world.

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