Trailer Manufacturer

Leading manufacturer of trailers improves efficiency by automating key operational processes using RFgen Mobile Foundations for Oracle's JD Edwards.

At a glance...

Industry
Trailer Manufacturing

Applications
Quality Assurance
Service Estimating
Human Resources
Inventory Management
PO Processing
Manufacturing

Environment
Oracle's JD Edwards
EnterpriseOne v9.1

A leading manufacturer of trailers for the trucking industry is currently deploying cutting edge technology throughout every operational area in the enterprise. The goal is to increase operational efficiency by eliminating paper and empowering employees with mobile tablets to free them from manual paperwork.

The Challenge

The company has wide-reaching operations, including multiple manufacturing plants, warehouses, service centers, and sales offices. To help the company identify the right technology to transform its operational processes for greater efficiency, the executive management team turned to RFgen-certified partner, WhiteLight Group Inc., an applications solution provider specializing in helping large U.S. enterprises develop transformative technology strategies.

First, WhiteLight Group helped the company deploy a new JD Edwards EnterpriseOne ERP system, including CRM, Production Scheduling, and a configurator system. While putting the enterprise management components in place, WhiteLight Group worked with the company to automate its collection of data throughout the organization.

The Solution

To automate data collection in the supply chain, WhiteLight Group recommended RFgen Mobile Foundations for Oracle's JD Edwards. This suite of pre-written, pre-tested Oracle-validated data collection software solutions enables companies to benefit from real-time barcode data collection and roaming mobile applications.

RFgen is designed to optimize supply chains by driving higher efficiency in the warehouse, on the shop floor, and more. It dramatically increases productivity by supporting data collection on barcode scanners, tablets, and even voice-enabled headsets while maintaining data integrity and facilitating real-time information exchange between these devices and JD Edwards EnterpriseOne.

WhiteLight Group implemented the RFgen solution and used the RFgen Mobile Development Studio and the pre-built suite of JD Edwards mobile applications that come with it to develop custom apps for the company to automate quality assurance, service estimating, inventory management, purchase order processing and manufacturing.

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RFgen

The Result

The company now uses RFgen for mobile data collection on the manufacturing shop floor, in the warehouses, at the service centers and in the trailer sales offices. Deploying RFgen across the enterprise has empowered the company's employees to:

- Collect large volumes of data across the enterprise in an efficient manner, using RFgen on mobile tablets, desktop computers, and handheld barcode scanners.

- Feed more real-time information into JD Edwards.

- Improve efficiency of the quality assurance process by eliminating manual paper forms.

- Allow mobile service workers in off-network environments to collect and store data until WiFi or cellular connectivity is reestablished.

- Deliver timely, accurate estimates for trailer repairs to customers.

- Quickly perform checks to intake used trailers at sales offices.

- Seamlessly collect shop floor labor data without requiring operators to clock in and out of work orders.

Paperless Quality Assurance

Each trailer goes through a series of extensive quality checks during the production process. Prior to RFgen, quality assurance managers relied on multiple checklists and paper forms to manually record defects and pass that information to the right team members for remediation. Deployed on mobile tablets, RFgen has revolutionized the quality control process. RFgen helps quality managers quickly capture and record any problems. Later analysis of digital quality records can identify patterns of repetitive quality issues that can lead to process improvements over time.

Faster Estimating

At the service centers, drivers bring trailers in for repair. Employees will soon use RFgen to issue repair estimates to customers. Before RFgen, estimates were created and calculated on paper, then transposed to an email to the customer. In the future, RFgen will quickly generate estimates on mobile tablets. Estimators will scan a trailer's VIN number, then go through a series of screens to evaluate the trailer to identify problem areas. Based on the repairs identified, RFgen will build the estimate, calculate the cost of services and parts, and create an email for the customer—all without requiring the estimator to return to a desk.

Seamless Capture of Labor Data

One of the primary reasons many manufacturers don't collect labor data during production is that they don't want employees to spend time logging in and out of each work order they touch. WhiteLight Group has designed a new labor tracking app using RFgen that enables an employee to simply log into his or her work center when reporting to the production floor. RFgen then automatically records the start and stop time as each work order passes through that work center. Now, the company has accurate labor analytics it can use for future cost estimating and production planning.

Inventory Management

In the parts warehouse, RFgen is used to automate receiving, inventory transfers and issuing inventory to production or repair orders. RFgen supports full tracking and traceability down to the part or component level, so in the event of a recall, the company could quickly identify all affected trailers and customers.

An RFgen-certified partner, WhiteLight Group is a leading business applications firm providing technology strategy, enterprise architecture, ERP implementations and upgrades, premise and cloud infrastructures, and managed services. Helping clients expand the power of JD Edwards, they provide complementary cloud and premise solutions deployed in a unified structure—all with flexible options for licensing or subscriptions. They provide their clients the tools needed to automate and to integrate their business, such as blending cloud point solutions, Internet of Things and predictive analytics. As an Oracle Gold partner, they provide comprehensive software and services solutions.

Improved Data for Analysis

With RFgen, the company can collect and feed more data into JD Edwards. With its former paper-intensive processes, more data would have meant more paper—and greater expense.

RFgen made it easy (and inexpensive) to collect large amounts of information across the enterprise. With so much more information at their fingertips, managers will be able to make better decisions based on real-time data.

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.