

AUTOMATING WAREHOUSE PROCESSES WITH ZEBRA TECHNOLOGIES

COPAGRO USES TRACINGINMOTION'S WMS TO INCREASE ACCURACY, PRODUCTIVITY AND TRACEABILITY



CHALLENGE

Copagro is the leading manufacturer and distributor of paints and products for decorators in Belgium. It supplies paints and materials from its warehouse in East Flanders to 41 wholesalers and 137 other points of sale throughout the Benelux. Previously, its warehouse systems were paper-based, which resulted in picking errors, limited traceability, an inability to ensure FIFO, and paint batch continuity, as well as stock discrepancies. Copagro therefore decided to automate its warehouse management systems, to increase accuracy, save time on administration and increase staff efficiency.

SOLUTION

Copagro engaged authorised Zebra Technologies distributor, TracingInMotion, as partner. The first step was to install a wireless network, comprising fifteen AP 650 access points in its main warehouse, one AP 6521 in its external chemicals warehouse and two RFS4000 Integrated Services Controllers. The network provides reliable and redundant coverage throughout the site.

Next Copagro deployed TracingInMotion's TRAC WMS solution on fifteen MC9190-G mobile computers. The Motorola Solutions mobile computers were selected for their rugged design suitable for the warehouse environment, their advanced wireless connectivity and their high performance scanning, which help teams to capture data quickly and accurately.

TRAC integrates with Copagro's DBFact ERP package via TracingInMotion's WMS Connector, so the information collected in the warehouse is available across the business. TRAC is used to monitor stock from entrance to exit at the warehouse, for goods receiving, cross docking, order picking, detailed warehouse management, such as optimal order picking routes and

'We have deployed TracingInMotion's TRAC WMS, together with a wireless network and mobile computers from Zebra Technologies at our warehouse. Our staff can now collect and access correct, detailed information in real time. We have improved order accuracy and traceability, allowing us to implement FIFO and ensure paint batch continuity. I estimate that staff productivity has increased by approximately 10% and customer service levels have consequently risen.'

Gaétan Le Fevre, Managing Director



assembly, cycle counts, inventory and shipping. Delivery notes, barcodes, picking lists and dispatch notes are automatically created and can be printed. TRAC also supports lot numbers, expiry dates and serial numbers, essential for paint products. This allows Copagro to adhere to FIFO, ensure paint batch conformity and store product on mixed pallets, so optimising its warehouse space.

BUSINESS VALUE

The system was deployed in under three weeks, with very little disruption to day-to-day business, and seamlessly integrated with Copagro's existing ERP solution.

Users find the new system easy to use and can work more efficiently and quickly. Training is minimal; warehouse operators can now be trained in a matter of days, rather than weeks. The number of daily pickings has increased by circa 10%, as the warehouse team receive electronic picking lists in real time on their MC9190-G mobile computers. They automatically receive details of rush orders, the most efficient route to pick and accurate information on product location. Administration has been reduced by 20–30%.

Order accuracy is now almost 100%, with resulting increased customer satisfaction levels. Copagro also has a better stock overview, with accurate yearly inventories and on-demand cycle counts. This, in turn, leads to improved production planning. By automating its warehouse systems with TracingInMotion and Zebra Technologies, Copagro has seen improved visibility and performance across its business.

For more information on how Zebra can help your warehouse solutions brief, please visit us at: www.zebra.com/warehousing



Corporate Headquarters
+1 800 423 0442
inquiry4@zebra.com

Asia-Pacific Headquarters
+65 6858 0722
apacchannelmarketing@zebra.com

EMEA Headquarters
+44 (0)1628 556000
mseurope@zebra.com

Latin America Headquarters
+1 847 955 2283
inquiry4@zebra.com

Other Locations / USA: California, Georgia, Illinois, Rhode Island, Texas, Wisconsin **Europe:** France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom **Asia Pacific:** Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam
Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Florida (LA Headquarters in USA), Mexico **Africa/Middle East:** Dubai, South Africa