

Case study – HazChem Compliance labeling meets legal requirements, thanks to NiceLabel Suite

The customer required a labeling system allowing continuous label production. It should integrate in the existing information system, securing faultless label content.

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Company: Leighs Paints www.leighspaints.co.uk

Solution provider: Barcode-IT <http://www.barcode-it.co.uk/>

Industry: Chemical industry

NiceLabel product: NiceLabel Suite

Summary

Leighs Paints were introduced to Barcode-IT in 2000 after they became unhappy with their current supplier and began to look for an alternative provider of maintenance for their thermal printers. Over the last 6 years the relationship has developed and Barcode-IT continue to provide advice and support to Leighs Paints about current and future barcoding and label printing projects.

This example nicely shows how a good solution with good products, where NiceLabel plays an important part are the basis of a long term relationship, where all involved parties benefit.

Customer profile

Leighs Paints are a leading supplier of heavy duty industrial coatings to specialist markets worldwide. The family business, based in Bolton, Lancashire UK, was established in 1860 and has been handed down the generations over the last 140 years to become the successful manufacturer it is today. Leighs Paints now provide specialist coatings for fire protection, road markings, steel and a wide range of other industrial uses.

Partner profile

Barcode-IT is a data capture and barcode solutions provider based in the North West of England and serving the whole of the UK.

Barcode-IT is a well established company with a proven track record both in products and services, specializing in barcode driven Warehouse Management Solutions, mobile data capture and the printing and reading of barcodes for industrial and retail applications.

Barcode-IT is a member of Dash Computer Products group.

Challenges and solution

Objectives

In 2001 Leighs Paints began having issues with their printing process. If one printer failed and required maintenance, production was stopped on that job until the printer was fixed, as the work could not be reassigned to a secondary printer.

To overcome this challenge they decided to run a centralized label printing application, to label their paint containers with product information and hazard warning labels. In order to easily print a variety of different labels, Leighs Paints required a solution that could link into their AS400 information system to produce complete product labels with little or no operator intervention.

Solution

To allow centralized label printing, the printers located throughout the site are connected via Ethernet to the company's central network. This allows all users full accessibility to any printer, which eliminated the problems Leighs Paints were facing, as another printer can easily be used for the job in a faulty printer's place.

Label design and printing is controlled by NiceLabel Suite software. Labels are designed and stored on the server, allowing access to all users with the software installed on their PC. When designing the labels, variable fields within the label are linked to the AS400 system and the laboratory's SQL database.

NiceLabel enables centralized label printing, eliminating the problems.

It is crucial that the hazard information on each container is accurate, as failure to do so could result in prosecution or severe fines.

This link is important for providing correct product information for the front label on the container and accurate hazard information for the label on the back on the container.

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As NiceLabel is linked in with the main system, information added to the label can easily be updated and is always accurate, therefore incorrect labeling problems are avoided.

In order to make label printing as easy as possible for the operators, a front end for users was written in Active X and linked to the NiceLabel software. To create a label for a job, the barcode on the job sheet is scanned into a PC. The barcode contains information on a specific label design, which in turn pulls data from the AS400 and laboratory systems.

The operator must then simply input the correct quantity and choose one of the networked printers to produce the labels.

There are a number of variable fields that the operator can change, but information for the back hazard label is uneditable due to its importance.

Leighs Paints have several different automated lines for different products and each requires a specific type of labeling technique, resulting in different printers to fulfill the needs of different label sizes.

Good combination of printer and NiceLabel speed up labeling process and reduce need for human intervention

The printers combined with the NiceLabel software, allow labels to be printed for both the back and front of the paint containers simultaneously and applied to the containers as they pass down the conveyor, speeding up the labeling process and reducing human intervention.

NiceLabel under law-suit pressure.

Field	Field Data
FormatFront	FM1000.lbl
FormatBack	FM2000.lbl
WorksNo	W322672
PartNo	431
Quantity	1050
Date	11/06
Description	ADDITIVE
Description	For Use With
Description	L425/M455
Description	4 Litres
BatchSensitive	
ThinnersNo	Use Cleanser/Thinners No. 5
Contents	Contains 4 Litres
MixingText	Material supplied in two containers. To prepare - mix additive into base and stir
ShellLife	Shelf life 2 years from batch date label
UseByDate	Use by end 11/08
HazSymbol1	
HazText1	
HazSymbol2	Harmful.bmp
HazText2	Harmful
HazSymbol3	Environment.bmp
HazText3	Dangerous for the environment
HazSubstance	Xylene (mixture of isomers)
HazSubstance	Triethylenetetramine
HazPhrase	Flammable.
HazPhrase	Harmful by inhalation and in contact with skin.
HazPhrase	Irritating to skin.
HazPhrase	Risk of serious damage to eyes.
HazPhrase	May cause sensitisation by skin contact.
HazPhrase	Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic
HazPhrase	Do not breathe vapour/spray.
HazPhrase	In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical
HazPhrase	Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection.
HazPhrase	In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment.
HazPhrase	Use appropriate containment to avoid environmental contamination.
HazPhrase	This material and/or its container must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
UNNumber	UN1263 PAINT
UNPrimary	Tm3.bmp

Conclusion

The customer appreciates good solution and after sales support.

"Barcode-IT have provided printers and printer maintenance for over 6 years and as a result of our satisfaction with the service and support, when we required software and advice on centralizing our label production, Barcode-IT were the obvious choice." - says Alan Moon, IT Manager at Leighs Paints.