VSE Corporation

RFgen

OVERVIEW

Defense contractor automates data collection to accelerate supply chain management and maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) operations using RFgen Mobile Foundations for Deltek Costpoint.

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SNAPSHOT

INDUSTRY:
Aerospace & Defense
Maintenance
Repair & Overhaul (MRO)

ENVIRONMENT:
Deltek Costpoint 7.0.1

APPLICATIONS:
- Inventory Management
- Miscellaneous Receipts

GOALS ACHIEVED

1. Automate data collection and implement mobile barcode scanning capabilities.

2. Seamless real-time ERP integration with Deltek Costpoint and Costpoint Inventory Module.

3. Significantly increase inventory management control, efficiency and visibility.

4. Achieve lot-level traceability to comply with DoD contracts and ensure 100% billing accuracy.

5. Fast, easy mass inventory transfer functionality between bins, racks, sections or locations.

> " RFgen really blew our socks off. You could scan something and data would appear in Cost-point live, in real time. "
>
> - Cathy Henry, Director of IT Operations, VSE Corporation

THE CHALLENGE

VSE Corporation was growing. As they began competing for larger contracts, the company realized that using manual processes in day-to-day inventory management for vehicle overhauls were going to prevent them from continuing to grow without drastically increasing the size of their workforce. At the time, VSE employees were managing MRO inventory on spreadsheets, the data from which would then have to be manually re-keyed into the company's Deltek Costpoint ERP system—a slow process that left multiple opportunities for error. Similar manual processes were used for purchase order receiving, cycle counting and inventory transfers as well.

VSE had to find a scalable solution to automate these processes and optimize efficiency, productivity and accuracy in order to remain competitive.

THE SOLUTION

"Our employees just want to fix trucks," recalled Cathy Henry, Director of IT Operations at VSE. "They don't want to mess with computers. That's why it was really critical to have an automated solution that included barcode scanning. We wanted to be able to scan something as it was received on the loading dock and have that item automatically loaded into inventory at a specific rack, shelf and bin, so that we could grow the business without having to add a lot of staff. We needed to scale up."

Henry's top priority for an automated data collection solution was seamless integration to Costpoint. After speaking with experts at Deltek, Henry implemented RFgen Mobile Foundations for Deltek Costpoint—the only Deltek recommended mobile solution for providing real-time, bi-directional information exchange between Costpoint and barcode scanners, handheld devices, RFID devices, PLCs, and scale-type devices for the aerospace and defense industry. RFgen's ability to capture and track

miscellaneous receipts in a formalized process that mirrored the level of detail used in purchase order (PO) transactions was also a deciding factor.

Henry and her team were more than impressed with what they saw: "RFgen really blew our socks off. You could scan something and data would appear in Costpoint live—in real-time."

> " It was really important to us to choose a partner like RFgen who had 'been there, done that' and could provide a live, successful system quickly. "
>
> - Cathy Henry,
>   Director of IT Operations,
>   VSE Corporation

THE RESULTS

Efficiency Gains Through Automation

Not only was VSE able to deploy RFgen quickly, their employees found the barcode scanners simple and easy to use. Eliminating the need for manual, spreadsheet-based data entry significantly reduced the time it took for employees to perform each task. VSE mechanics were able to work faster, easier, and concentrate

more time on their jobs instead of getting bogged down with time-consuming administrative tasks.

"Inventory management is now totally automated"

RFgen automated processes for Purchase Order Receiving, Issuing to Projects, Cycle Counting, Inventory Adjustment and Inventory Transfer, and then making these actions available to users on rugged handheld devices that transact against Costpoint, updating the system in real time.

In receiving, employees are notified in real time when parts required for a certain vehicle had arrived. "Now, we can bring up the PO right on the scanner and go through the lines to add quantities. If everything on the PO is in the box, we can perform an auto receive with just one click," explains Henry.

100% Part Traceability, 100% Billing Accuracy

"One of our contracts required that we track lot numbers, even for components purchased with miscellaneous receipts, and that made traceability more important than ever," said Henry. "And because we bill the government, obviously our billing has to be correct and exact. When we bill for a project, we have 100% traceability of each part installed on each vehicle."

ABOUT VSE CORPORATION

Headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, VSE Corporation is a diversified defense contractor employing over 2,700 people. As a preferred strategic partner to the U.S. Department of Defense, VSE extends the service life of military land, sea and air vehicles by providing sustainment services, consisting of supply chain management (SCM) and maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO).