

CASE STUDY:

Transportation Company



OVERVIEW

Rail operator manages equipment, plant maintenance, and parts inventory with an automated data collection solution from RFgen Mobile Foundations for JD Edwards.



Scan code to read the full case study



SNAPSHOT

INDUSTRY:

Transportation

ENVIRONMENT:

Oracle's JD Edwards
EnterpriseOne v9.0

APPLICATIONS:

- Equipment and Plant Maintenance (EPM)
- PO Processing
- Inventory Management

GOALS ACHIEVED

- 1 Mobilized inventory transactions and inquiries.
- 2 Eliminated time-consuming paperwork.
- 3 Complied with regulations that require the serialization of every part on each train.
- 4 Optimized inventory cycle counting, even in locations without Wi-Fi connectivity.

“ Technicians can issue their own parts to a repair order using RFgen on a mobile device. This is especially helpful for the nighttime technicians since by using RFgen, they no longer need access to JD Edwards to complete their work. ”

- Consultant, RFgen

THE CHALLENGE

The company uses Oracle's JD Edwards EnterpriseOne to track spare parts inventory and maintenance activities. To update the system, they were using a paper-based manual process where information was collected and then data entered into JD Edwards. This not only made inventory management difficult, it was inefficient and error prone. It also impacted productivity since nighttime personnel who needed to issue parts for

work orders did not have after-hours access to the JD Edwards system.

Furthermore, the company procured spare parts and other inventory items from suppliers via purchase orders in JD Edwards. A requirement under national safety regulations mandated the collection and tracking of serial numbers on train parts. Compliance with this government mandate

required more steps in the company's manual receiving process.

To address these issues, the company began looking for an automated data collection software solution that could integrate with its JD Edwards system and extend JD Edwards transactions onto wireless RF devices in the shop and store room, thus enabling the company to improve receiving, parts issuance, and inventory management. Using mobile devices with barcode scanning would also make it easier to comply with the government regulation about serialization of spare parts.

THE SOLUTION

RFgen Mobile Foundations for Oracle's JD Edwards was selected as the best platform to address the challenges. After evaluating three solutions, the company chose RFgen because of its open architecture and flexibility to adapt to the unique needs of their business.

RFgen delivers certified integration with JD Edwards and is highly customizable. For security and tracking purposes, RFgen connects to JD Edwards using a named user configuration, with user accounts authenticated by Microsoft Active Directory.

To comply with the regulation requiring serial numbers on all train parts, the company affixes barcode labels to all inventory items. When inventory is received or consumed, employees scan the attached barcodes and RFgen captures details about the transactions and posts them to JD Edwards in real time.

The company asked RFgen to customize and implement the solutions in just one month. The RFgen team got to work and delivered a solution that matched their exact requirements while staying on time and budget. The entire solution was deployed in just three weeks.

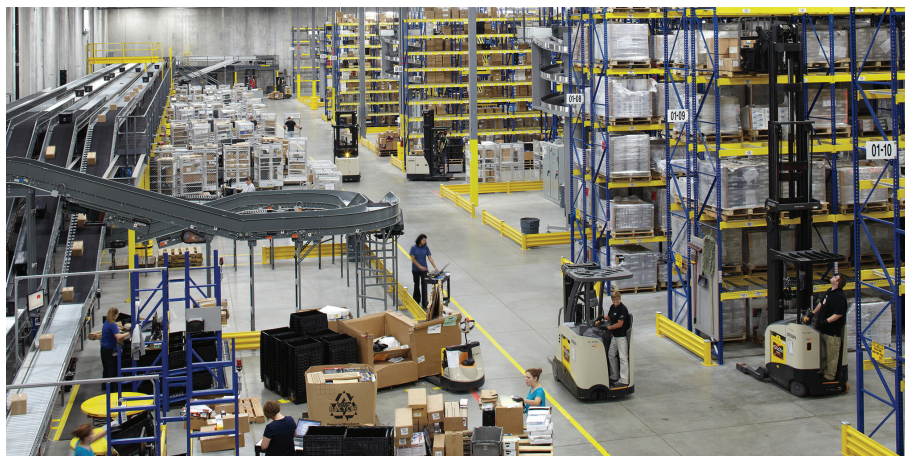
THE RESULT

The company uses RFgen with mobile devices (Motorola bar code scanners) to receive JD Edwards purchase orders by

line. As each line is received, RFgen posts the receipt to JD Edwards and prints out serialized labels for the items received. If the supplier is not ISO certified, a work order is automatically issued to initiate quality control processes.

RFgen also facilitates the issue of spare parts and inventory items from the store room to work orders. Technicians can issue their own parts to a repair order using RFgen on a mobile device. This is especially helpful for the nighttime technicians since by using RFgen, they no longer need access to JD Edwards to complete their work.

Based on the success of this project, RFgen is currently being implemented across other divisions of the larger parent company, starting with a division that maintains petroleum industry assets including offshore drilling rigs and pipelines.



ABOUT TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

an automated rail-based rapid transit system serving a large city and a metropolitan airport. The company warehouses many spare parts to maintain the trains and employs specialized technicians to make repairs and perform preventative maintenance.

A transportation company is the private operator of