Daalimpex *Achieves Real-time in Real Cold.*

CASE STUDY

Daalimpex - Extremely high mobility at extremely low temperatures guarantees great customer satisfaction for European based, cold storage giant, Daalimpex. Daalimpex, a logistics service provider specializing in the cold and frozen storage of food and other temperature sensitive products, has a worldwide network of suppliers and clients. Every day the employees working at temperatures of -25°C ensure smooth and speedy logistics, thanks to LXE wireless computers.

Daalimpex has establishments in Velsen, Tuitjenhorn and Harlingen and utilizes a cool 1,000,000 m³ for the refrigerated and frozen storage of butter, fish, meat, fruit and other perishable products. The company has its own stevedore service in the harbors of Harlingen and Velsen and also engages in the large-scale import and export of potatoes, cabbage, onions, carrots and other vegetables.

The Situation

Daalimpex was looking for a solution to increase its customer satisfaction by offering the option for customers to follow the progress of goods on-line. At the same time, Daalimpex wanted to come into line with a number of legal requirements regarding tracking & tracing. "Ever higher demands are being made on the traceability of our products," says controller, Joost de Boer of Daalimpex. In legislation, tracking & tracing is a hot item, and clients too are increasingly regarding it as normal that to follow the progress of their products at any time of the night or day. "In the past we worked with paper forms in the storage areas, which were subsequently entered into the computer. That is almost inconceivable today. It causes undesirable delays," adds de Boer.

The Solution

After a thorough comparative study of wireless products, including a review of complex equipment specifications and pricing, Daalimpex realized that not all wireless equipment is suitable for operation in polar-bear type temperatures. Daalimpex, confident in their research, chose LXE's heated VX4 vehicle-mounted computers and scanners. "We received a guarantee from LXE ensuring that the VX4 computers would work in our exceptional cold-storage environment. The hard disk and all other hardware proved to be exceptionally resilient to the cold conditions," said de Boer. The system was supplied via LXE's Elite Partner, Peak Technologies in De Bilt.

Also playing a role in their decision, Daalimpex considers it of crucial importance that there is an embedded version of Windows® XP running on the LXE units. It has great advantages for the WMS-package Well Coldstored, from Orad Logistics & Business Solutions, which runs on it. De Boer noted, "The acquisition of the data collection package and the wireless equipment was done at the same time. Both are optimally attuned to each other."

The Results

Today, the information required for the traceability of Daalimpex's products now runs in real-time and on-line into the central computer system from where their clients can obtain all of the information they require. Effectively, clients can look over the shoulders of Daalimpex's warehouse personnel as they scan incoming and outgoing goods. Using LXE wireless computers allows everything to be dealt with right away and on the spot. "The throughput time has been radically reduced, and we can give our international clients much more accurate and up-to-date information," added de Boer.

About LXE Inc. LXE Inc. improves supply chain performance by applying over 30 years' experience developing wireless products and solutions. From wireless computers, advanced auto-ID technologies, and wireless network infrastructure, to our award-winning customer support - LXE's easy-to-use products are as reliable as the people who install and support them.

Based in Norcross, Georgia, LXE also offers a full range of turnkey services, including radio integration, project and installation management, network design, technical support, and repair services. LXE is a wholly-owned subsidiary of EMS Technologies, Inc. DAQ: ELMG), and has offices worldwide. For more information, visit www.lxe.com.