

# DSC Logistics - *Ready For Anything* with wireless warehouse system.

## CASE STUDY

**DSC LOGISTICS** - DSC helps companies in a wide range of fields achieve their business goals by managing change and information in the supply chain. Services provided by DSC include supply chain analysis and design, strategic solutions-based consulting, systems integration, process management, and management of logistics operations, such as warehousing, transportation, packaging and fulfillment.



*DSC Logistics is a leading 3PL company that has over 30 warehouses in North America. The business of third party logistics is highly competitive and typically is conducted with very low margins. In order for a 3PL to be successful, they must have a very firm grasp on their costs and productivity levels expected from each warehouse worker. This makes timely and accurate data collection a must. Years ago, DSC saw the benefits of bar coding and RF data collection and began installing both technologies in all of their warehouses. The use of RF is now mandatory for all of their new sites and is used as a critical component of their sales pitch to new prospective clients.*

### The Solution

DSC uses their own, AS/400 based software program to manage all of their warehouses. The RF interface to the software is a full-screen application that had historically run on full screen Telxon RF terminals. When Telxon was bought, DSC decided they needed to change vendors and began an extensive, eight-month search for a new RF vendor. They also determined that they wanted to purchase a Windows® based device, even though they were still running their 5250 application, in order to hedge their bet for the future. This decision followed their corporate motto of 'Ready For Anything.' After thoroughly testing every Windows terminal, DSC selected the LXE VX4. They run rugged vehicle-mounted computers on a Cisco 2.4GHz backbone and use Powerscan LR bar code scanners.

### The Results

Since they have had their system installed for over ten years, the typical cost justification figures have long since been realized.

- Inventory accuracy at all of their warehouses typically has remained above 99% allowing DSC to offer their customers an Internet portal into their inventory levels.
- The system has allowed the use of random storage space that helps to maximize warehouse space utilization.
- Productivity data captured by the system has provided DSC with exact costs, which allows them to furnish potential customers with precise quotes.

### Key Learnings

One of the biggest keys to DSC's success has been that their RF system is uniformly deployed in all of their warehouses. This is critical in the 3PL world since they often have only one week to set up a new warehouse once a new customer is secured. They have been very happy with LXE's vehicle-mounted computers and have plans to increase the functionality of the RF system to take advantage of some of the unit's features such as the touch screen. They have also incorporated Windows technology to use standard features such as a VPN for wireless security.

**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](http://www.lxe.com).