

Fresh Fruit *Fast* at Seabrex Terminal.

CASE STUDY

SEABREX TERMINAL Speed is the key at this fruit terminal. Seabrex is a temperature controlled terminal that stores and ships fresh fruit and juices. The implementation of a wireless network has increased the speed at which they bring in and ship out the perishable items. This means less waste and greater profit for Seabrex.



The Solution

In the shadow of the impressive office towers of Marconi Square in Rotterdam, lies the equally imposing Seabrex terminal. Enormous temperature controlled warehouses dominate the 25 acre yard. On the three piers, around one million pallets of fresh fruit and frozen fruit juices move through the terminal every year.

"Seabrex is not only the biggest terminal for fresh fruit in Europe, it is the biggest in the world," explains terminal manager, Hans Erkamp. But fruit is very fragile and perishable. Moving it requires not only expertise but also speed. To improve the efficiency of the terminal's operations, Seabrex and LXE installed a complete wireless network. The wireless network covers the full 25 acre yard of the Seabrex terminal. Crane drivers, forklift

operators and warehouse workers are equipped with LXE mobile computers. With the help of 24 touch screen handheld computers and 84 vehicle-mount computers with teathered scanners, every pallet that enters the terminal is recorded and stored in a central database. The information recorded in the system includes the type and quality of the product, the names of unloaders and receivers, the storage method, lay-up information and even damage data. This data is then used to optimize the whole supply chain. "For example, a customer can use the system to track where his shipment is. This speeds up the dispatch of pallets onto trucks," explained Erkamp. "It reduces errors and costs, as well as improves service."



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.