



REDLEDGE

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Company History »

Siemens Healthcare supplies an extensive range of products and services to major Health Service hospital laboratories in acute care centres throughout the world. They also provide an unrivalled portfolio of point of care diagnostic products to Hospitals, GP surgeries and pharmacies.

Siemens Healthcare is part of Siemens AG. With around 400,000 employees worldwide and 20,000 in the UK, the group recorded a net income of €4 billion on a revenue of €72 billion in 2007, operating in the industry, energy and healthcare sectors.

The Challenge »

- In order to help Siemens Healthcare achieve U.S. FDA approval for their processes, Siemens required a system capable of tracking every component of a product, noting the four W's – who, why, where and when. The system had to be able to show a full history of any manufactured item at the push of a button.
- ▲ Siemens required a system that did not demand constant development for different manufactured products, that could easily be adapted (by Siemens themselves) for each new product launched and for changes to existing products and engineering practices.
- Siemens required a system that was written using Microsoft Visual Basic and utilised a Microsoft SQLServer Database and gave employees an easy interface explaining each step of production.
- ✔ Siemens required a system that would link seamlessly to their existing IBM system (BPCS).

The Solution »

- The Red Ledge SPRINT system was chosen over its competitors because SPRINT can be programmed not only by Red Ledge, but also by customers. This made it the ideal solution to a manufacturing industry where, because of continual improvement, engineering changes can be frequent but must not be held back by software that is unwieldy.
- ▲ Shop Orders are loaded automatically from BPCS via SQLServer Data Transformation Services (DTS).
- ▼ Each engineer has access to a SPRINT client which has a scanner and a zebra desktop thermal transfer printer attached.
- The manufacturing engineer chooses a shop order from a list which is pertinent only to them (as SPRINT recognises the skills of each employee).
- ▲ When a component completes manufacture, SPRINT prints a small barcode which is attached to the component. When this component is later used in an assembly, it is scanned by the engineer.
- ▼ SPRINT records the user and the time at which all events takes place and provides very comprehensive search facilities. Therefore, a full history of any item (component, assembly or product) can be seen, literally, at the touch of a button!
- SPRINT analyses efficiencies in terms of both employee and manufacturing.