

CooperVision sets its sights on Spirit's Gotive

A mobile computer can transform workloads in the field when it is used to automate manual processes. This is what CooperVision discovered when it decided to change its manual recording system. The company contacted Spirit Data Capture Limited, who recommended the Gotive H4I. This has already brought both time and cost savings.



Based near Southampton, CooperVision has become one of the world's largest contact lens manufacturers. It has a network of facilities in 12 countries across five continents, and distributes its products through practitioners around the globe.

The company recently decided to revise its system for recording calibration data obtained in the field. Previously, the results had been manually recorded, and the paper-based data were transferred to the company's computer system when the technician returned to the office. ▶



Case Study

This process was both time-consuming and also generated a great amount of paper. As the number of items requiring calibration increased, the space available for storing the paper records began to diminish. There was also a risk of errors when transferring the data to the computer.

Calibration Technician, Lisa Pierce, says: "We wanted to be able to record the results at the time of calibration in the field, so that we would have real-time records. These would also enable us to assess the time needed for any task more accurately.

"We discovered Spirit Data Capture when we were searching on the Internet, and asked if they could source a suitable solution. We wanted a reliable computer with a long battery life. It needed to be both secure and robust, as it would be used in various manufacturing areas. It also had to be quick and accurate but easy to use, as we work with high volumes of materials. Finally, we wanted to be able to access our emails from any site."

Spirit recommended the Gotive H41, a versatile and rugged handheld computer that incorporates Bluetooth® technology. The Gotive met all of CooperVision's criteria. Most importantly, it enables mobile workers to record field data securely – straight onto the company's computer, via a wireless network.

The system was trialed in May 2005, and went live a month later. Spirit also provided help with software development for the unit's barcode reader, to ensure that the Gotive's functionality was optimised.

Lisa continues: "The Gotive now plays an integral role in our data collection capabilities. It provides a



platform for our CFRII-compliant software, enabling us to access it securely in the field, and works well with our wireless system. We are pleased with the unit: it is proving to be very reliable and robust with a good battery life. We are also delighted with the help we have received from Spirit throughout this project."

She adds: "Overall, the Gotive saves us a significant amount of time, as we are no longer duplicating results by having to transfer them manually to the computer. It also allows us to be more mobile, whilst still enabling us to keep in touch with others via email. This means that we can deal with any issues instantly, on the spot. Finally, the system is also helping to save us money, as it optimises our use of both people and resources."