

THE COMPANY

Albea (formerly Betts Tubes) is the global leader in the production of laminate tubes. Supplying a wide range of fmcg customers, Albea currently sells in excess of 3 billion tubes per year.

Albea has the leading global position in the global oral care market, supplying the worlds major toothpaste and denture fixative brands. Increasingly Albea are finding favour in the personal care market for products such as hair colorants, gels, shampoo, creams, washes and specialist food products.

Albea's vast range of tubes in a variety of laminates and in dimensions from 16mm– 50mm are manufactured on state of the art equipment running up to 300 tubes a minute—the world's fastest commercial technology.

Albea is the industry leader in print capability with six colour flexo graphic and letterpress presses offering either hot or cold foil blocking and silk screen print in line. Betts also have a full injection moulding capability, allowing them to produce a full range of caps and shoulders from simple fez caps to two colour bi-injection flip-top caps.

THE CHALLENGE

Albea supply a very high volume of tubes direct to the customer. These tubes have to be delivered in a set sequence at very short notice.

Shipment of either an incorrect pallet or a late delivery could slow or even shut down the customer's product line. This would be unacceptable.

This was summarised by Chris Herbert, IT Manager at Betts "The ability to locate a pallet quickly is essential to our business. The tracing of pallets of a specific batch of finished goods can be extremely difficult. Customers demand a specific pallet of completed tubes. We have to be able to locate and ship this pallet very quickly."

Chris Herbert continued "Due to the physical environment that we are often working in, our previous stock accuracy was sometimes as low as 60-70 %."

The decision to purchase a data collection system to complement their QAD Enterprise Applications ERP system was detailed by Chris Herbert "Our present systems did not allow us to support our customers.

We needed to implement a system that was totally integrated into QAD Enterprise Applications.

We wanted a standard product that did not require any additional servers. It had to be flexible enough to match our business practices.

In short we needed a product that would enable us to quickly and simply track pallets and trace their shipment to the customer.

We required a supplier who had knowledge of not just data collection but also of QAD Enterprise Applications.



|| We could not locate and ship pallets quick enough to supply the customer without RF Express™ for QAD Enterprise Applications. ||



Automotive



Consumer Products



Food & Beverage



High Tech



Industrial



Life Sciences

HOW EAGLE MET THE CHALLENGE

Today Albea use RF Express™ for QAD Enterprise Applications to record all movements of raw material pallets across 1000 locations per facility. The ease of recording pallets has allowed the introduction of FIFO issuing of the raw materials to the work orders.

Finished goods pallets can be quickly and simply located in the warehouse without having to return to an office. All finished goods movements and picking against customer requirements are also recorded real-time.

THE RESULTS

Chris Herbert summarised the project: "Stock accuracy has increased to a level in excess of 99.5% in the facilities in which we use Eagle's solution. We could not locate and ship pallets quick enough to supply the customer without RF Express™ for QAD Enterprise Applications".



This has allowed Albea to report the following benefits from the introduction of RF Express™ for QAD Enterprise Applications:

- **Traceability of pallets.** RF Express has allowed Betts to quickly locate pallets of finished goods.
- **Simple recording of pallet transactions.** Pallet movements, shipments and cycle counts can be recorded in two scans.
- **Ease of transactions.** The transactions are simple to use and have therefore been easily adopted by the warehouse personnel.
- **Increased Data Accuracy.** The use of barcodes and scanning of the goods has removed typing and writing errors.
- **Accurate Inventory Levels.** By recording at the time of Transfer, Issue and Picking an accurate picture of all inventory can be obtained.

THE FUTURE

After the success of the implementations at the two UK and one Chinese manufacturing facilities, Betts are looking to extend the implementation to their other manufacturing facilities based worldwide.

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