



Assured Logistics

a Division of Progistix

Case Study

Industry:

Third-Party Logistics (3PL)

Geographics:

Calgary, Alberta
Ottawa, Ontario

TECSYS Products:

EliteSeries

TECSYS Transportation Management System

Computing Environment:

Hardware: Compaq/Dell

Database: Microsoft SQL

PC OS: Microsoft XP

RF Devices:

Symbol RF

Zebra Printers

Main ERP Product:

SAP v. 4.6c

Business Challenges

Faced with the growing demand for its outsourced supply chain services, Assured Logistics required a transportation management system that allows flexibility for growth while reducing operational complexity and maintaining the company's track record of fulfillment excellence.

Assured Logistics, the retail merchandise logistics division of Progistix, operates three specialty distribution centers in Mississauga, Ottawa and Calgary. Moving its clients to a higher level of performance is the cornerstone of Assured Logistics' promise. Following the implementation of a new warehouse management system (WMS) within its Ottawa and Calgary facilities for its client, Canada Post, Assured Logistics sought solutions that would enhance operational performance and provide visibility of shipments, while allowing for integration with its backbone order management system, SAP.

Assured Logistics also wanted a shipping system that offered an enterprise-wide solution that would keep total cost of ownership low as new facilities are opened.

TECSYS Solution

TECSYS *EliteSeries* TMS was selected and implemented at two Assured Logistics facilities: Ottawa and Calgary. These two locations deliver to over 7,800 Canada Post corporate and franchise outlets across Canada.



"We selected TECSYS because of their in-depth knowledge of and experience in the transportation industry. The advanced product design and ease of integration with our core SAP application provided us with a solution that no one else could provide. As well, its enterprise-wide architecture has meant quick facility deployment and reduced cost of operation and ownership."

*Chris Thomson
Director IT, Retail
Merchandise Fulfillment
Assured Logistics*

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Business Benefits

As a result of implementing TECSYS Transportation Management System, Assured Logistics achieved the following:

- The solution is fully automated and integrated with the SAP WMS packing process, providing flexibility for each site's requirements through the power and visibility of a single centralized solution.
- Tight integration with the SAP system allows for transportation management to be executed from one versus multiple systems.
- The traditional shipment processing step has been streamlined – increasing the daily shipment processing volume.
- Easy integration into SAP through XML calls delivers an average response of less than three seconds.
- All rates, services and routing rules are managed from both locations from a single system.
- The solution provides total visibility and tracking of every order shipped.
- High-volume processing allows the company to manage volumes in excess of one million per year

Impact of Change

Working closely with TECSYS, Assured Logistics was able to capitalize on the Transportation Management System in a number of areas.

Increased Efficiency

Consultative discussions with TECSYS led to tighter integration with Assured Logistics' SAP Warehouse Management

System whereby SAP can correctly route a shipment and print carrier-compliant shipping labels during the pick/packing process. The integration was easy and inexpensive due to TECSYS' XML architecture. The whole project was completed in a matter of weeks.

Thomson states, "Web service calls take less than three seconds to find, calculate and to send upstream to our SAP WMS system."

The result has been labour savings for each order processed.

Reduced Cost of Ownership

By using components maintained by TECSYS, ongoing updates to carrier compliance and freight costs are provided without Assured Logistics' intervention.

"If you look at rate loading, as an example, we would have to manage the rates for over 7,800 delivery locations. It's not that it can't be done, but it makes more sense to outsource that and not have to worry about it, and it's also one of TECSYS' core competencies," remarked Thomson.

Total Visibility

Assured Logistics now has total visibility on all orders no matter which warehouse they are shipped from. Assured Logistics' customers and their customers in turn can also track and trace their packages.

Bottom Line

Automation, system-assured accuracy and self-serve visibility are all keys to the viability of the business and are offering a real competitive advantage to Assured Logistics' customers – now and in the future.



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Management



Warehouse
Management



Transportation
Management



e-Commerce

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